

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

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HQS ATTN: CC/MILLER, EO/CUSACK, ST/GUNN FROM C/A HEALEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, CA

SUBJ: CANADAIN POSITION ON PAPAVER BRACHEATUM AT UNCND
CONFERENCE, GENEVA FEB 76

THIS DATE COUNTRY ATTACHE HEALEY MET WITH REID
MCKIM, DIRECTOR BUREAU OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, MINISTRY
OF HEALTH AND WELFARE AND SUPERINTENDENT GORDON L.
TOMALTY, OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, DRUG ENFORCEMENT BRANCH,
RCMP HQS AT LATTER'S INVITATION. PURPOSE OF MEETING
WAS TO BRIEF C/A HEALEY ON POSITION OF CANADIAN
DELEGATION TO FORTHCOMING UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC
DRUG CONFERNECE IN GENEVA, FEB 16-27, SPECIFICALLY
WITH REFERENCE TO AGENDA ITEM 5 CAPTIONED "WORLD'S
REQUIREMENTS OF CODEINE FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES."

CANADA DELEGATES WILL TAKE POSITION RE INHERENT
DANGERS IN PRODUCING CODEINE DOMESTICALLY FROM
PAPAVER BRACHEATUM AS FOLLOWS:

1. THIS PRODUCTION COULD UPSET THE BALANCE OF
WORLD OPIUM PRODUCTION AND SPECIFICALLY AFFECT
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240,000 FARMERS ENGAGED IN OPIUM PRODUCTION IN

INDIA. MCKIM POINTS OUT IN 1974 INDIA PRODUCED APPROX 884 TONS OF OPIUM VERSUS IN EXCESS OF 1000 TONS IN 1975. IF THE US CEASES TO PURCHASE INDIAN OPIUM THIS WILL RESULT IN OVERPRODUCTION OF OPIUM IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY. MCKIM CITES THE POSSIBILITY OF OVERPRODUCTION OF 250 TONS GUM OPIUM.

2. BENTLEY COMPOUNDS CAN BE PRODUCED FROM THE BAINE, A PRODUCT OF PAPAVER BRACHEATUM. MCKIM DESCRIBED THESE COMPOUNDS AS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS IN THE AREA OF DRUG ABUSE AND FURTHERMORE POSSESSING MANY UNKNOWN FACTORS. THE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BENTLEY COMPOUNDS IS NOW AVAILABLE IN TEXTBOOKS. MOREOVER, THE AVAILABILITY OF BENTLEY COMPOUNDS WOULD PRESENT A CONTROL PROBLEM IN COUNTRIES WHOSE REGULATORY PROCEDURES ARE NOT AS SOPHISTICATED AS THE US AND CANADA.

THE DELEGATES WILL CITE THE REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL NARCOTIC CONTROL BOARD OF 1975 WHICH PORTRAYS A RATHER OPTIMISTIC PICTURE RE WORLD SUPPLY OF CODEINE IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE BASED IN PART ON INCREASED OPIUM PRODUCTION IN INDIA AND RESUMPTION OF OPIUM POPPY GROWING IN TURKEY.

MR. MCKIM CITES THE NEED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENT FOR OPIATES SO THAT CONSUMERS CAN BE ASSURED OF SUFFICIENT SUPPLY AND PRODUCERS WILL BE ASSURED OF A READY MARKET.

MESSRS MCKIM AND TOMALTY WISH TO PRESENT ABOVE OUTLINE FOR CONSIDERATION BY US DELEGATION TO FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMENTS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE IF SUCH IS THE WISH OF THE US DELEGATION.

MR. MCKIM ARRIVES GENEVA 2-14-76 WITH RESERVATIONS AT LONGCHAMP HOTEL SHOULD US DELEGATES WISH TO DISCUSS MATTER THAT WEEKEND.

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Message Attributes

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